

Town of Williams Creek

Minutes – Town Council meeting Thursday, December 17, 2015 Meridian Hills CC

Attendance:

Present:

Scott Preston, Town Council President
Michael Wernke, Town Council Member
Ted Dawson, Town Council Member
Steve Moss, Town Council Member
Maureen Burger, Town Council Member
Allen Kasper, Town Marshall
Bob Parrin, Clerk-Treasurer

Absent due to a prior obligation:

Ellen Townsend, Town Attorney

Others present:

Matt Neff

Agenda and discussion:

1. S. Preston called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. A quorum was reached with all council members present.
2. S. Preston asked for comments and a motion to approve the meeting minutes of August 10, 2015. On a motion by S. Moss, seconded by M. Burger, a unanimous vote approved the minutes as written.
3. R. Parrin reviewed the November 30, 2015 financial report. Cash balances are good and there are no items of significance to report. The full year Clerk-Treasurer's Report will be published in January.
4. R. Parrin introduced a services agreement to the Council. It will provide on-call electrical and mechanical services for 2016. It is with Continental Contracting LLC, the contractor which installed the Town's lighting and holds the Town's snow removal contract for 2016. Other services are provided including street patching, sign maintenance and general labor needed for one-off needs. The commercial terms were reviewed including a commitment to a maximum response time of 48 hours. On a motion by M. Burger, seconded by M. Wernke, a unanimous vote approved the contract for 2016.
5. S. Preston introduced an Interlocal Agreement with the Court of the City of Beech Grove. It was drafted by A. Kasper and E. Townsend and will provide the Town with more efficient handling of and higher revenue generation for Town ordinance and traffic control violations. On a motion by S. Moss, seconded by T. Dawson, a unanimous vote

approved the agreement. It will now be submitted to the City of Beech Grove council at its January meeting for approval.

6. A. Kasper advised the Council that the growing national trend of parcel theft from doorways of homes has been seen in our area. Residents are urged to take precautions by being home for package delivery and reporting suspicious activity using 911.

7. T. Dawson and M. Burger attended a briefing on the Red Line mass transit bus service under consideration. Phase 1 looks to be moving ahead in spite of objections voiced by communities along the northern portion of the route on College. After considerable discussion on its impact on the Town, it was agreed that the Council needs to have more community education and involvement on the subject. Also, contact with Meridian Hills, Park Tudor and the Meridian-Kessler and Windcombe Associations to understand their concerns might give us a bigger voice.

The Council will arrange for a Town Hall meeting at Nora library for a presentation by IndyGo of the Phase I and Phase II Red Line project. It is likely that Phase I will have some Federal funding so any substantive changes should be made before the funding is finalized.

8. There was no report from the Town Beautification Committee.

9. Right-of-Way tree removal/DPW. R. Parrin met with the City forester and the DPW attorney at DPW's S. Madison office. What he found is that the State assigns responsibility for tree maintenance in rights-of-way to the municipality responsible for the streets. The State provides tax revenue from Local Roads and Streets and Motor Vehicle and Highway funds for this purpose. When Uni-Gov was established, street responsibility was defined for all municipalities in the Consolidated City. In the case of our streets and ROW's, that falls to the Town. The Town receives tax revenue for this purpose.

R. Parrin found that the City has two on-call contracts with tree removal companies at fixed prices based on tree diameter. On first review, these look to be very cost effective compared to other tree service companies. The Council authorized him to contact these companies for a firm PQ for ROW trees already identified. The Town has enough funding in the Rainy Day Fund to cover the preliminary cost estimate.

10. T. Dawson reported to the Council on a meeting he had with Tri-Phase Technologies, a supplier of residential, commercial and municipal security systems. A copy of his report is attached to these minutes which concludes that a study is needed to define Town security needs and options. Discussion included comments by A. Kasper, particularly in regards to residents taking steps to make their homes unattractive targets. He reiterated his offer to perform individual surveys for residents' homes.

M. Wernke suggested a Town Hall meeting concerning home and Town security. M. Burger will advise potential meeting dates when the Nora library is available and report back to the Council.

11. With S. Preston's term ending, the Council filed the vacancy by appointing resident Matt Neff to the Council. R. Parrin administered the Oath of Office. In addition, on a

motion by S. Moss, seconded by T. Dawson, M. Burger was unanimously elected to serve as Council President in 2016.

There being no further business, on a motion to adjourn by S. Moss and seconded by T. Dawson, the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting of the Town Council is scheduled for Monday, February 8, 2016 at 7:30 PM in Holly Hock Hill restaurant.

Minutes recorded by R. Parrin, Town Clerk-Treasurer